The Learning Curve

Welcome to The Learning Curve, the complete hardware and software system in one pack, enabling you to get started right away with your Acorn computer.

Note: the use of all software supplied in this package is subject to the terms of the End User Licence Conditions that are either printed on the back panel of the software packaging or supplied in the pack. Please ensure you read these conditions before using the software.

The Learning Curve system

Your Learning Curve system contains the following:

- Your Acorn computer and manuals
- The following software:
  - 1st Word Plus – for word processing
  - Genesis Plus – for creating your own multi-media programs
  - PC Emulator with DR DOS – for running PC software
  - Pacmania – for fun
  - Acorn Desktop Publisher – for desktop publishing (hard disc systems only)
- The RISC OS audio cassette tutorial
- *Computers, Children and the National Curriculum*
- This leaflet.

Getting started

1 Please start by filling in the Owner Registration Card (packed with the computer manuals) and posting it back to Acorn. This information helps us to build better computers and registers you as an owner, so that we can keep you informed of new hardware and software developments.

2 Next, fill in the DR DOS Registration Form (enclosed with the DR DOS manual), and send that off in the prepaid envelope provided. Returning the Registration Form is a requirement of the licence conditions for using this product.

3 Now read the *Welcome Guide*, which tells you how to set up your computer and start using it.

4 When you've got the system up and running, listen to the RISC OS cassette tutorial which introduces you to how the computer works while you're using it, and gives you a flavour of some of the programs supplied with it.

Software overview

Your Learning Curve pack contains many exciting software applications, supplied on floppy discs, and on the hard disc as well, if your system has a hard disc. Don't use the original floppy discs to run these applications – make backup copies and use these instead, keeping the originals in a safe place. This way you will be able to go back to the originals if your working discs ever become corrupted. The *RISC OS User Guide* tells you how to make backups.

If you are running these applications from hard disc, and at a later date decide to delete some of them from your hard disc to free some storage space, be sure to copy them back into the correct place, as shown on the diagram of the directory structure on page 4. This will ensure that you can use your system as efficiently as possible.

The applications all have manuals with them telling you how to use them, but here is a brief description of what they are:

The Applications Suite

The RISC OS Applications Suite contains a variety of powerful applications and tools for use with the RISC OS Desktop. They are all described in the *RISC OS User Guide*, or, on hard disc systems, in the *RISC OS Applications Guide*.

1st Word Plus

1st Word Plus is the established and fully-featured word processor, designed for producing documents such as letters and reports. The mouse-driven menus allow you to change the style and appearance of your documents easily and quickly, and you can also include Paint pictures in your documents.

Genesis Plus

Genesis Plus is the latest version of the program that allows you to link pages from Draw and Paint, Maestro files or animated sequences in a whole variety of ways. Using Genesis, you can build your own multi-media applications. Several examples are provided, including one which tells you about Genesis itself.

Customers receiving Genesis Plus on hard disc Learning Curve systems running RISC OS 3 should back up the Genesis software onto floppy discs. In case Genesis ever needs to be reinstalled, it should be done from these floppy discs, rather than from the discs supplied, as the hard disc version of the software has been optimised for use with RISC OS 3.

PC Emulator and DR DOS

The PC Emulator is a program which enables you to use your computer like an IBM PC. It will run most PC software in the same way as a standard PC. You load the PC Emulator from the desktop. The computer then prompts you for the DR DOS disc which is supplied with the DR DOS manual. If your computer has a hard disc, DR DOS will be loaded automatically when you run the PC Emulator, and there is a 5MB DOS partition already on your hard disc for you to save DOS files. If you need more space for DOS files on your hard disc, the *PC Emulator Guide* tells you how to create an additional partition.

Pacmania

When you want a break from serious computing, Pacmania will provide endless amusement for all the family.

Acorn Desktop Publisher

Acorn Desktop Publisher (Acorn DTP), supplied with hard disc systems only, is a powerful and flexible page layout program, for laying out newsletters, leaflets and other short documents. You can use a variety of scalable fonts with the program. You can also incorporate graphics, either imported, or generated in the integrated draw program.

Note that the following options have been factory-set to help you get the best out of DTP:

- `Fontsize 256K`
- `Fontmax3 60`

Check the DTP release note. This tells you the other options you can usefully reconfigure for DTP on 2MB hard disc machines. For a full list of options, see the *RISC OS User Guide*.

Computers, Children and the National Curriculum

This publication gives you up-to-date information about the National Curriculum, and on how computers are being used to teach it.

Computing, or Information Technology (IT), was traditionally thought of as a subject in its own right, and used to be taught separately. However, it is now generally recognised that IT can make a valuable contribution to all subjects. The capabilities of IT to communicate, handle and model information, as well as to measure and control processes, are being put into practice right across the National Curriculum.

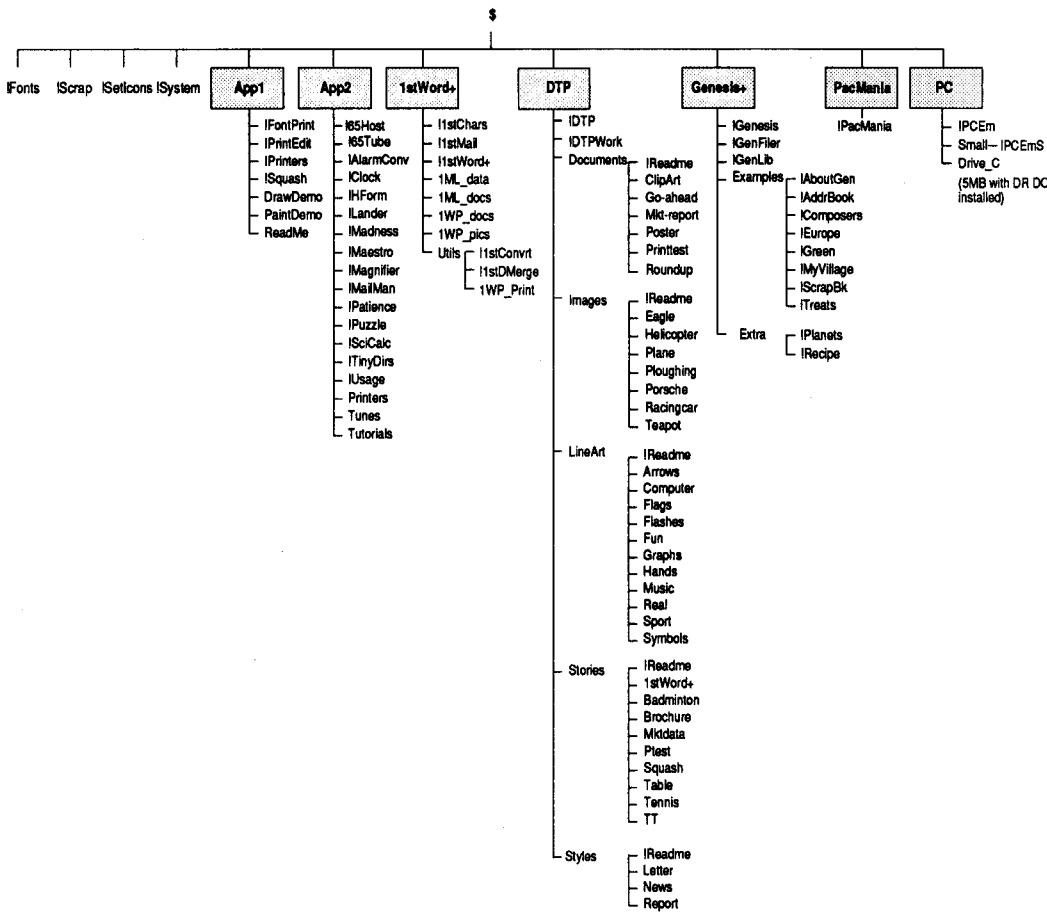
Word-processing and Desktop Publishing help children to write fluently on any subject, and to present their work attractively for others to read. Data can be collected and analysed, using spreadsheets and database programs. Painting and drawing programs enable children to produce attractive and professional-looking illustrations for incorporating into essays, project reports and newsletters, as well as to create designs and works of art in their own right.

Much of the software needed to do these things is already included in the Learning Curve, while other software titles can be obtained from your Acorn supplier.

Acorn have been the leading supplier of computers to schools for ten years; Acorn computers and the software available for them are specifically designed for use in education, and are best placed to make the maximum contribution towards helping children succeed in the National Curriculum.

The Learning Curve hard disc directory structure

This directory structure applies to computers on which Learning Curve software is supplied on hard disc.



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Published by Acorn Computers Limited
Part number 0493,118
Issue 3, December 1991